

Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 SCSE-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 /018 W

----- 107446

R 271543Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7114

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS BEIRUT 3426

FOL SENT ACTION ROME MAR25TH REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CGEN LE US

SUBJ: VISIT OF TAX OFF FROM DEPT OF JUSTICE

REF: STATE 54820; B. ROME 3773

1. AFTER SOME DIFFICULTY, LOCATED ATTORNEY RASHID DERBAS IN TRIPOLI. WE UNDERSTAND FROM HIM CASE INVOLVES DEBT OF SAMIH MASRI TO USG. DEPONENTS MUHAMMAD MASRI AND KASSIM AL-SADDIK ARE SAMIH'S FATHER AND UNCLE RESPECTIVELY, TO WHOM SAMIH ALLEGEDLY OWES LARGE DEBTS.

2. DERBAS CLAIMS THAT MUHAMMAD GRAVELY ILL, NOT EXPECTED LIVE LONG. EVEN IF STILL ALIVE APRIL 4, WILL BE UNABLE TESTIFY. KASSIM WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DEPOSITION.

2. AS REQUESTED REFTEL B, HAVE RESERVED ROOMS PHOENICIA HOTEL FROM MAR 30 FOR VOYZEY AND FROM APR 1 FOR J MCCARTHY. DOES FURTH ALSO WISH PHOENICIA RESERVATIONS?

4. AGOP KALOUSDIAN WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE APR 3 AND 4 AS REQUESTED REFTEL B.

5. EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE LEGAL STEONOGRAPHER ON STAFF. ATTEMPTING ARRANGE PROVISION OF BOTH STENOGRAPHER AND TRANSLATOR FROM PRIVATE SOURCES. TRANSPORTATION WILL BE ARRANGED.

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6. ASSUME THAT "LEGALIZING" REQUESTED IN REFTEL A

INVOLVES STANDARD "OATH" OR "AFFADAVIT". IF CONSULAR
OFFICER EXPECTED TO ADMINISTER DEPOSITION, WILL
REQUIRE COMMISSION OR COPIES OF NOTICES PER 8 FAM 840.

7 BEFORE EMBASSY MAKES COMMITMENT TO EMPLOY SECRETARY
AND TRANSLATOR, REQ CONFIRMATION THAT FURTH ET AL
STILL INTEND TRAVEL DESPITE CHANGE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED PARA 1.
GODELY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BEIRUT03426
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740066-1055
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740312/aaaaaldj.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 54820; B. ROME 3773
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUL 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <11 DEC 2002 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF TAX OFF FROM DEPT OF JUSTICE
TAGS: CGEN, LE, US
To: STATE ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005